

Message Text

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13

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-10 NEA-10 /080 R

DRAFTED BY AF:DDNEWSOM:BJR

APPROVED BY AF:DDNEWSOM

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R 102255Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201241

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, NI

SUBJ: GOWON VISIT

IN APPARENT GENUINE MISUNDERSTANDING THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS STILL IN NEW YORK NIGERIAN EMBASSY PROPOSED MEETING WITH DR. ARIKPO AT 11:00 A.M. OCTOBER 11. ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM PHONED AMBASSADOR GARBA TO SAY SECRETARY WAS IN WASHINGTON AND HEAVILY ENGAGED WITH MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND MEETING IN NEW YORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. GARBA SAID HE REGRETTED THIS FACT BUT UNDERSTOOD.

NEWSOM TOOK OCCASION TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE GENERAL GOWON HAD TAKEN REGARDING DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT. NEWSOM REFERRED PARTICULARLY TO GOWON'S STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR WITMAN IN NEW YORK THAT HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD PROBLEM.

GARBA SAID HE APPRECIATED THIS AND COULD ADD THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY GENERAL GOWAN TO VISIT DEPARTMENT AND TO EXPRESS FORMALLY GENERAL GOWAN'S INTEREST IN

PROCEEDING TO DISCUSS STATE VISIT POSSIBILITIES. NEWSOM
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WILL RECEIVE GARBA OCTOBER 16 AND IN MEANTIME IS SEEKING

GUIDANCE FROM WHITE HOUSE. KISSINGER

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